

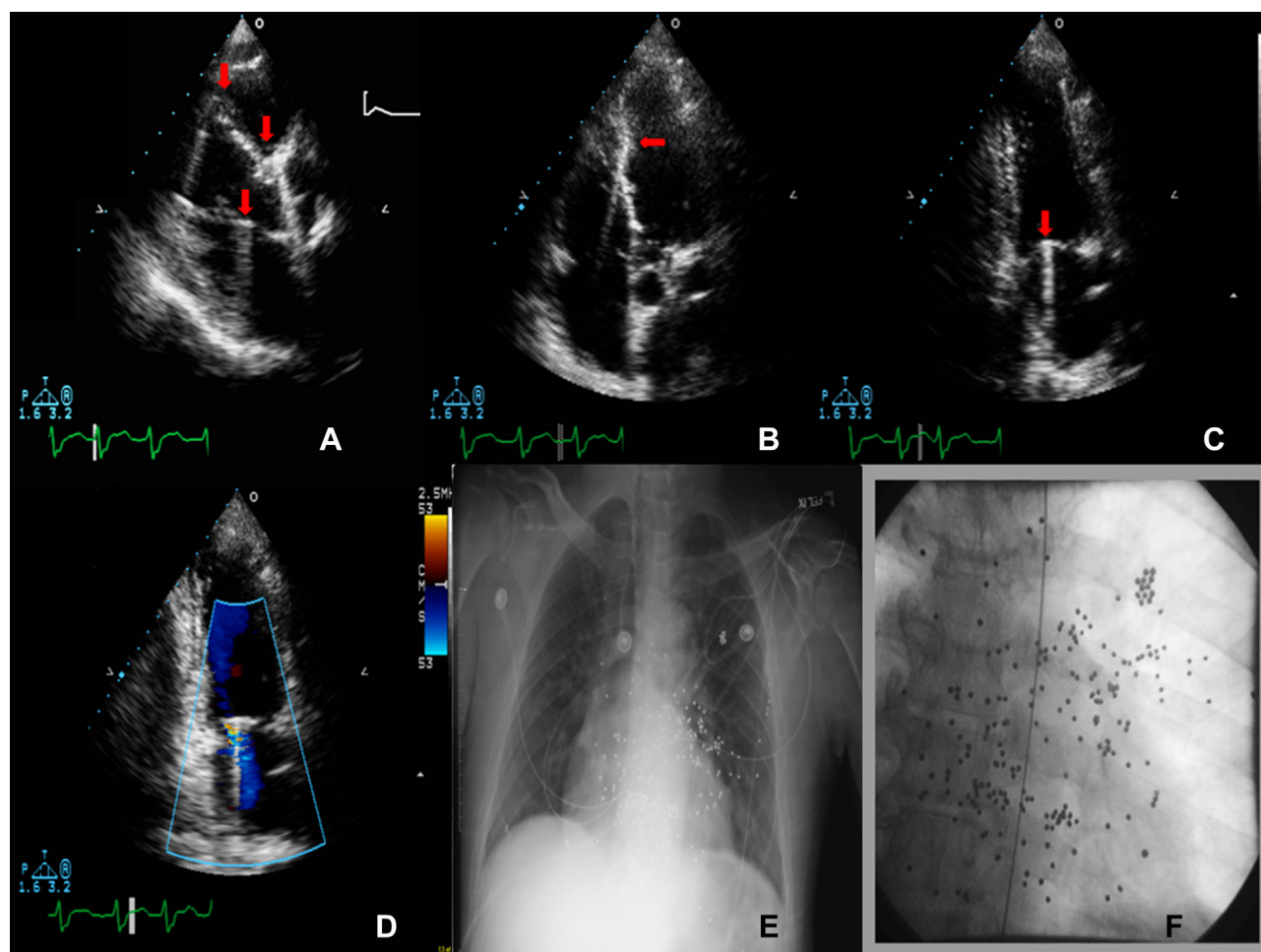
IMAGES IN CARDIOLOGY

A Long-Kept Secret in the Heart



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A 61-year-old man with a known history of chronic hepatitis C was evaluated for chest pain due to non-ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction. On chest x-ray and angiography, many small radio-opaque foreign objects were scattered throughout the precordium. The patient stated that he had been shot by a shotgun 25 to 30 years ago during a fight. He had a prolonged hospitalization at that time, but had been asymptomatic ever since. The patient's echocardiogram revealed echo shadows (**arrows**) consistent with shotgun pellets in the interventricular septum, anterior mitral valve leaflet, and right ventricular outflow tract (**A to C**, [Online Video 1](#)). There was no significant valvular regurgitation (**D**, [Online Video 2](#)). Chest x-ray revealed multiple pellets (**E**), and the fluoroscopic image showed pellets moving consonant with cardiac motion (**E and F**, [Online Video 3](#)). The patient was discharged after an uneventful recovery from his non-ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction.